



APPENDIX

The following amended claim is presented in a marked-up form in compliance with 37 CFR § 121.

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18. (Amended) A method for identifying a nucleic acid ligand that photocrosslinks to a protein from a candidate mixture of nucleic acids [.], wherein each member of said candidate mixture contains a photoreactive group [.], said method comprising:

a) contacting said candidate mixture with said protein, wherein nucleic acids having an increased affinity to the protein relative to the candidate mixture form nucleic acid-protein complexes with the protein;

b) irradiating said complexes, wherein said nucleic acid-protein complexes crosslink;

c) partitioning the photocrosslinked nucleic acid-protein complexes from the remainder of said candidate mixture; and

d) identifying a nucleic acid ligand that photocrosslinked to the protein; wherein steps (a)-(c) are performed at one or more work stations on a work surface by a cartesian robotic manipulator controlled by a computer.